

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

RILEY H. ALLEN - - - - - EDITOR

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1915.

REACTIONARY, NOT PROGRESSIVE.

It is incredible that the sub-committee of five of the charter convention, or any responsible part of that convention, should favor a charter plan which is nothing but that plausible scheme proposed by Harry E. Murray.

What Mr. Murray proposes is so thoroughly reactionary that it is impossible to reconcile it with his platform utterances when he ran for the nomination for mayor last year and proclaimed himself in favor of progressive, businesslike city government.

He now proclaims this charter plan progressive, but that is merely to conceal its true type. It is a reversion to the outworn, vicious, discredited ward system which has been the shame of American cities and which outraged public opinion is fast forcing into the discard. It is a reversion to the political opportunism of the past, which ruled too many mainland cities, encouraging corruption of officials and looting of treasuries.

The scheme to divide the city into nine districts or wards, each ward to elect a supervisor, and to restrict the duties of the supervisors to legislation only—this scheme he calls observing the short ballot idea. Yet in addition he proposes to elect the mayor, county auditor, county clerk, county treasurer, county sheriff, county attorney and superintendent of municipal public works. That would make a total of sixteen elective offices on a ballot in place of thirteen on the present municipal ballot. And yet he has the nerve to call his plan a short-ballot plan!

The great claim he puts forward for his plan is that by electing a superintendent of public works a city manager could be secured who would have "full control of all construction work." As a matter of fact, the superintendent under this plan would be plunged into politics from the beginning of his term to the end; he would have to curry favor with the supervisors, who would control appropriations; he would, throughout his term, be working with a view toward re-election. This adaptation of the city manager scheme would first amaze and then amuse those who know what a city manager really should be!

Members of the sub-committee of five which met last night appear to favor the Murray scheme. Of course they say that the ideas are not Murray's, but the coincidence in the charter forms is a little bit too much. Either they have swallowed the Murray scheme or else some of them have been working with Murray from the outset, which perhaps is not a bad guess, either.

If any such reactionary plan as this gets by the convention, if it is put up to the whole people two years from now, it should be voted down overwhelmingly. And it will be to the everlasting discredit of the charter convention if a reversion to the vicious ward system is set before the people of Honolulu as a "progressive charter." Save the mark!

GERMAN DEED FOLLOWS GERMAN WORDS

Those who doubted the sincerity of Germany's recent assurances to the United States upon the subject of submarine war may well be convinced by the fact that a sea-raider is now reported as having chased a British steamer eighty miles, overhauled it, allowed the crew, including six Americans, to take to their boats, and then—and only then—torpedoed the steamer.

In some respects it was an extreme case. The British steamer in the first place was not a passenger ship, so that there was little likelihood of neutrals being aboard unless they were engaged in the service of the enemy. In the second place, the steamer carried what under the conditions was contraband of war—a cargo of horses, doubtless for cavalry and artillery use. If Germany had sunk the steamer without warning and the six American members of the crew had been lost, the United States would have had a doubtful case at the best.

The sinking would have been an entirely

different matter from the destruction of the Lusitania and the Arabic. These were passenger vessels, sunk without warning for the passengers to take to the boats.

That the British horse-ship was chased 80 miles and then not torpedoed until the crew could take to the boats is pretty good proof that this particular German commander has been ordered to be very careful. And it is pretty good proof that other German commanders have been told not to repeat the "unfortunate mistakes" of the past.

There are, it is true, people unkind enough to say that Germany yielded to the United States because the submarine war wasn't accomplishing much anyway, and its military results were not sufficient to warrant a break with Uncle Sam. But that view is beside the point so far as America is concerned.

Now that Germany is going to considerable length to safeguard neutral lives at sea; now that her submarine warfare has been distinctly modified, the United States may renew its protests against the British commercial blockade which is quite as law-breaking as the German submarine methods, though directed against property instead of life.

CITIES GAINING IN EFFICIENCY.

That "the government of American cities today, in the main, is far superior to the government of American states" is not the common opinion. Elihu Root's statement in just those words to the New York constitutional convention, if he is correctly quoted, seems daring. So much of discussion of city government, and so much of criticism of forms and manner of administration, has gone on in recent years that, quite possibly, there has been a lack of attention to that of the state. Meanwhile, the criticism has counted. The cities of the United States are unquestionably better administered than they were a few years ago. How much better is not fully realized. The abolition of the parliamentary form and the focusing of responsibility has brought a great advance in efficiency. Is it now time for the states to learn lessons from the city experience? Probably so, and therein lies the strength of the agitation for the short ballot, a step in the direction of closer accountability. Christian Science Monitor.

A PATRIOTIC BUSINESSMAN'S ARTICLE.

In another column today is an extremely interesting article by President Gillett of the Mitchell Wagon Company, embodying a proposed plan for buying on a huge scale in case the United States should get into war. Local army officers who have seen the article are much impressed with it. It illustrates, as one of them comments, "the interest our great businessmen are taking in the proper preparedness of the country." It is in line with the general committee recently appointed by the president for the navy.

The short ballot means less patronage pie to be passed around—and that is why the well-known professional politicians and peanut-manipulators are against it.

All the supervisors need to do now is to create a few more parks so there will be enough superintendents' jobs to go around.

Transferring the idle road men to park jobs is an illuminating example of municipal efficiency. Will it be "put over"?

John Wanamaker's billion-dollar bid for Belgium just about meets that billion plunks the Allies want as a loan.

It is with some wistfulness that the Colonel remarks the greatest role in the world is that of a mother.

Russia would make a great ad for a well-known branch of auto-supply: Time to Retire!

The Turks' "holy war" is a joke to the military leaders but not to the Armenians.

Yes, indeed, looks as if Petrograd is going to be a mighty popular winter resort.

SETOS' LUMBER CARGO COST \$80,000 WHEN LOADED LAST YEAR

"I can't announce just yet how my efforts to dispose of the Setos' lumber cargo are progressing," said A. W. Standen, agent here for the owners of the refugee German steamer's cargo, W. B. B. & Co., Ltd., of Sydney and London, this morning.

Bulletin, the department of commerce has remitted the penalty of seizure which would ordinarily have applied to ships of warring powers seeking to discharge their cargo here after taking refuge in this port. This allows the Setos to unload and sell its lumber here.

The Setos has 3,400,000 feet of undressed lumber, mainly Oregon pine, on board. Mr. Standen said that the actual cost price of the big cargo was \$80,000, when it was loaded at

Wellington in July, 1914. "If I stay here much longer I may become a naturalized citizen," Standen commented ironically this morning. "I have been here since the middle of August, killing time while waiting for some action. There has been so much red tape to go through that I don't know when I will be through with it all."

Wheat supply in Berlin are said to be abundant.

PAUL BARTLETT TO REMAIN HERE IN LAW PRACTISE

Former Honolulu Newspaperman Has Attractive Opportunity With Local Firm

Paul R. Bartlett, former city editor of the Evening Bulletin and later graduate of the Yale law school, has decided to practice his profession in Honolulu, an attractive opportunity with Holmes & Olson having presented itself since his arrival here a few weeks ago on some personal business. Mr. Bartlett made a splendid record in law school after leaving here in 1911 and had intended to practice on the mainland but now expects to make his home here permanently. He is already busy with his new duties and continuing to meet the many friends he made while in the "news-paper game" here.

LETTERS

(The Star-Bulletin invites free and frank discussion in this column on all legitimate subjects of current interest. Communications are constantly received to which no signature is attached. This paper will treat as confidential signatures to letters if the writers so desire, but cannot give space for anonymous communications.)

A PROTEST AGAINST CHEAPNESS

"Greenacres," Sept. 24, 1915. Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin. Sir: I notice in the morning paper a request, or suggestion, that the Chernavsky Brothers play more "homey" music—in other words "the sort of thing we all know." May I be allowed space to enter my protest against this attitude toward the masters of music whom we in Honolulu so rarely have the opportunity to hear? Is it not a pity, when musicians like Harold Bauer or Mischa Elman or these unknown Russian prodigies come to us, that any one should ask them to give us the commonplace that lesser performers do so well, or subjects that have become hackneyed through daily practice?

Let us rather, for the few times in a lifetime that we may listen to the real masterpieces, the things that lay hopelessly and forever beyond our young musical students' and ambitious amateurs. It is true that no one not a trained musician can expect to grasp fully and properly and appreciate such a work as the A minor trio of Tchaikovsky at the first hearing. But even in large mainland cities the opportunity to hear a work like this is so rarely rendered that it comes many times to the average person. In this small, isolated community to hear it once is a privilege that everyone with a passing interest in music or appreciation should be deeply grateful for.

It is pointed out that even Melba sings "Comin' Thro' the Rye." Yes, but what is gained by training a nightingale to sing the robin's note? I stoutly maintain that it does not require a Melba to sing "Comin' Thro' the Rye" quite as well as it is meant to be sung. As a matter of fact I have heard a Southern negro girl with a moderate musical training sing that time-honored ditty with more genuine and moving effect, to my ears, than lay in Melba's gracious attempt to be simple and naive. I do not know what may be the violin equivalent to "Comin' Thro' the Rye," but I am sure it would be a waste of Leo Chernavsky's time and powers to play it for us when he might be playing the exquisite and unfamiliar things he has chosen for his encores.

There is, indeed, a pleasure in hearing familiar and well-loved things superlatively well done, but the man who does not know Mendelssohn's "Spring Song" or Schubert's "Ave Maria" or Dvorak's "Humoresque" well enough to find in them that pleasure, however estimable a citizen he may be, is not the man for whom music programs should be made.

Let us, I pray, have from the Chernavsky brothers for their remaining concerts such programs as they have already given us—beautiful, musicianly and memorable for the great things in them.

MRS. FRANCIS J. GREEN.

Marshal Smiddy returned from the Big Island today, bringing with him Barteleon Basques and Rufina Elbers, charged with having committed a statutory offense in Hilo. The court appointed Attorney C. A. Long as counsel for the defendants. The case was continued until next Wednesday morning for plea. Basques' bond was fixed at \$250, and that of the woman in the same amount.

Personal Mention

GEORGE COOPER of Hana, Maui, has been a visitor in Honolulu during the last week.

S. B. DOLE and family have moved to their Diamond Head residence, at Waikiki to stay indefinitely.

E. C. COINTE of the mechanical department of the Advertiser left for Hilo today on a week's vacation.

DR. GEORGE J. AUGUR and Mrs. Augur left Honolulu in the steamer Selyo Maru at noon today for the Orient, where they expect to remain a year.

R. B. WESTCOTT, city editor of the Advertiser, will leave for Kauai tonight with the Oahu delegation to the civic convention, accompanied by Mrs. Westcott.

MANUEL C. DE MELLO, the well known Democrat of Kona, Hawaii, arrived in Honolulu yesterday on a business trip. He expects to return to the Big Island next Tuesday.

MRS. M. E. MENEZES of Kaimuki will return to Honolulu in the Wilhelmina next Tuesday morning. She has been visiting the exposition at San Francisco and at other points in California.

MRS. ROBERT DAY WILLIAMS and her mother, Mrs. Hayes, will be guests of honor at an at home given by the ladies of Mills school and Kawalahao Seminary at Kawalahao Seminary, Friday, October 1, at 4 p. m.

SISTER IDA GREAVES, who has many relatives in this city, is the first English woman to receive the Royal Red Cross for services rendered to England in the great war. A paper published recently in Adelaide near the home of Miss Greaves, said: "Sister Ida Greaves, matron of the Australian hospital in France, mentioned in despatches by Sir John French as having rendered distinguished service, comes from Newcastle, where she was head of the local hospital for four years. She was in England when the war began and at once volunteered her service."

INTERVIEWS

A. P. TAYLOR: Some one asked last night at the board of supervisors, "Who is A. P. Taylor, anyhow?" Well, he's been in the islands seventeen years, having previously been secretary to the Hawaiian annexation commission at Washington, D. C. For about fourteen years he was a local newspaper man, was chief of detectives or Honolulu for two years and homes he did the city some service during that period, was twice secretary of the Hawaii exposition commission, was the representative of the Promotion Committee for more than a year on the Pacific coast and was asked to return to Honolulu to take charge of the Promotion Committee work. He has endeavored to be a citizen in good standing and take an interest in public affairs, and as such will put his shoulder to the wheel to help wherever possible, and will be found backing up the board of supervisors in its efforts to give us good roads. I believe I have earned the right to the designation of Kamaaina, and expect always to make Hawaii my home.

HAS OLD MEDAL GIVEN TO KAUAI GOVERNOR HALF CENTURY AGO

An unusual and precious relic is in possession of Capt. Winfield L. Bowers of the Merchants' Patrol. It is a medal presented more than 50 years ago to the governor of Kauai by the Japanese government. The medal has been in the family's possession for two generations, and is in the shape of a Maltese cross with white enamel background, gold mounted, and suspended at the end of a long ribbon.

The cases of the following applicants for naturalization have been continued one month: John Francis Daly, Herbert Riley, Takao Ozawa, Harold John Anell, Edward Desnoes, Edward Iskov, Thomas Joseph Ward, Rupert Matthews and A. W. T. Bottemley. The petition of Jacob Kahn was continued until October 22, for hearing, and the petition of Alberto de Santos was continued until September 28 for disposition.

Hans Scholz, a native of Germany, and Willy Watson, honorably discharged from the U. S. navy, were admitted to citizenship today by taking the oath before Judge C. F. Clemons.

Russian Trio Will Play Grieg's Peer Gynt Suite

Grieg's famous Peer Gynt Suite is included in the program which the Chernavsky Trio will give at the Opera House this evening at the third of their series of Honolulu concerts. The fourth and last concert will be given Monday night and on Tuesday the gifted musicians depart for the mainland. Each audience has been larger and more enthusiastic than its predecessor, and tonight the "S. R. O." sign is expected. The program for this evening follows, in full:

- (1) Trio for piano, violin and violoncello, D. minor. A. Arensky
- Allegro moderato. Scherzo allegro. Elegia-adagio. Finale non troppo.
- Leo, Jan and Michel Chernavsky
- (2) Violoncello solos. Popper
- (a) Romance. V. Herbert
- (b) Serenade. V. Herbert

- (c) Am Springbrunnen. Davidoff
- Michel Chernavsky
- (3) Pianoforte solos—
- (a) Sonata Pastorale. Scarlatti-Taubert
- (b) Study in F sharp major. Arensky
- (c) Gavotte. Steyngager
- (d) Hungarian Rhapsody, No. 6. Liszt
- Jan Chernavsky
- Interval of ten minutes.
- (4) Violin concerto. Erna
- Leo Chernavsky
- (5) Trio for Pianoforte, violin and violoncello, Peer Gynt Suite. Grieg
- (a) Morning.
- (b) The Death of Ase.
- (c) Anitra's Dance.
- (d) In the Hall of the Mountain King.
- Leo, Jan and Michel Chernavsky

GARDEN ISLAND ALL READY FOR GUESTS TO LAND

(Continued from page one)

Worth O. Aiken of the Valley Island this morning smilingly to Mr. Timmons.

Mr. Aiken says that the entire Maui delegation is heart and soul in the wish to make this convention the best one yet held. A passenger on the Mauna Kea, who saw the Maui delegation board the steamer last night between midnight and 1 o'clock at Lahaina, says that they have with them a large amount of suspicion paraphernalia which seems to hint of the rumored stunts they intend to pull off at Lihue.

Then there is the Hawaii group, rather quiet about all of their plans, but undoubtedly having something up their sleeves. Several musicians from Hilo are in the party.

The Ad Club choir practices last night was a great success, and the school are now an assured feature. Charles R. Frazier is enthusiastic over the prospects of good music on the trip. Again he urges all the delegates who can, to meet with the Ad Club

FISCHER CHARGE IS TAKEN FROM COURT CALENDAR

The nearly two-year-old case of John T. Scully, Wilmore R. Chilton and J. H. Fischer, charged with conspiracy, was partially deleted from Circuit Judge Ashford's court calendar today when City Attorney Brown entered a nolle prosequi in the case of Fischer. The cases of Scully and Chilton were continued until next Saturday morning.

"This case is growing whicker," remarked Judge Ashford. "It is time to dispose of it."

The charge against Scully and Chilton is that they attempted to "spin" away a witness from a meeting of the board of liquor license commissioners about two years ago. It is reported that when the alleged conspiracy was entered into, the board was probing the affairs of the then notorious Waikiki Inn, of which Scully was manager.

at the Young Hotel tonight, marching down at 9 o'clock—weather permitting—to the dock.

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Royal Grove	2	37.50
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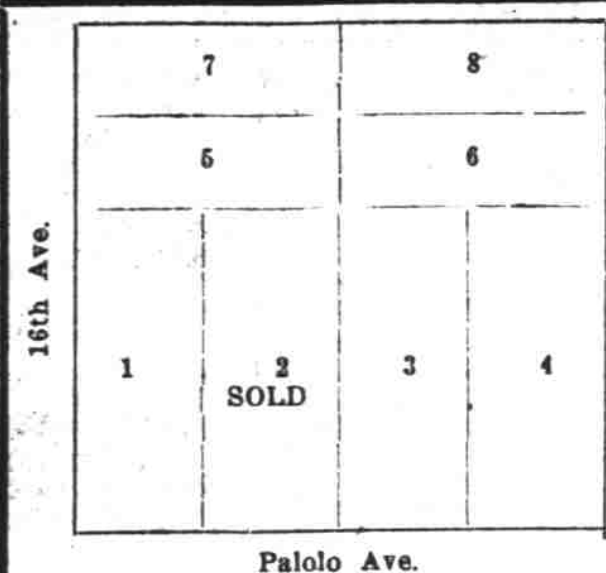
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